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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Shipley, Peter M.

Docket No: 0008-011P1

Serial No: 09/210,057

Group Art Unit 2785

Filing Date: 12/10/98

Examiner: Pierre Eddy Elisca

For: **INTELLIGENT NETWORK SECURITY DEVICE AND METHOD**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231



Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated August 12, 1999 (paper number 5) Applicant responds as follows.

AMENDMENT

In The Claims:

Please amend Claim 1 to read as follows:

Claim 1 (amended). In a computer system connected to an external communications medium, a security device comprising:

a programmable firewall device interposed between the computer system and the external communications medium;

a controller device configured within the computer system such that said controller device can access all communications into and out of the computer system; and

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a communications device for communicating instructions from said controller device to said firewall device for controlling said firewall device; wherein

said controller device examines communications incoming to the computer system to detect attempted security breaches; and

the controller device continuously controls the firewall during the operation of the computer system to block communications between the computer system and the external communications medium when an attempted security breach is detected.

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